

REMARKS

Claims 10 – 44 are pending. Claims 1 – 9 were previously cancelled. Claims 10 – 14, 41, and 43 – 44 are presently rejected, and claim 42 are presently objected. By this response, claims 10, 12, 13, 15 – 41, and 44 have been cancelled, and claims 11, 14, 42, and 43 have been amended. Reconsideration and examination in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim Objection

Claims 10 and 12 presently stand objected to.

Claims 10 and 12 have been cancelled. The objection is deemed moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 42 is presently objected to as “being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.” See page 3 of Action.

Claim 42 previously depends from claim 41, which depends from claim 10. Claim 42 has been amended to include limitations from claims 41 and 10.

Allowance of claim 42 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 10 – 14, 41, and 43 – 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,643,086 (“Alcorn”) and in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,003,507 (“Johnson”), and U.S. Patent No. 5,070,479 (“Nakagawa”).

Claims 10, 12, 13, 15 – 41, 43, and 44 have been cancelled. The rejection is thus deemed moot.

Dependent claims 11, 14, and 43 have been amended to depend from the allowable claim 42. Therefore, claims 11, 14, and 43 are allowable for at least the same reason set forth above with respect to claim 42.

No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

Entry of the Amendment and allowance of claims 11, 14, 42, and 43 are respectfully requested. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation at any time during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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